

STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

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KENNETH E. MAYER

Director

RICHARD L. HASKINS II

Deputy Director

January 13, 2010

Mr. Scott R. (Randy) Brown, P.L.S. Director of Planning & Zoning Elko County Community Development Planning & Zoning Division 144 South 9th Street Elko, Nevada 89801

RE: Bishop Creek Dam

Dear Mr. Brown,

This letter is to confirm continuing support from the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) for the reconstruction of Bishop Creek Dam as expressed in our letter of August 26, 2009, as well as defining requirements for future funding for boating access facilities. While we will be unable to have personnel in attendance for your meeting on January 19, we offer the following comments.

The funding we have discussed providing for the construction of boating access facilities comes to us through the Sport Fish Restoration Program administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We are required to meet NEPA and applicable federal regulations governing federally funded construction projects. I would refer you to the USFWS website located at http://www.fws.gov/ and information regarding boating access at http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/BoatAccess/BA.htm.

Typically with projects such as this we sub-grant the funding to a cooperating party who completes all of the necessary permitting processes and contracts for the construction. For us to enter into such a contract we would need to have a binding agreement in place securing the minimum pool and guaranteed public access discussed previously. This agreement would also need to provide a commitment to maintain the facilities. Design and location of the facilities would be reviewed and approved by us prior to submission to the USFWS for ultimate approval and funding. It should be noted that in previous discussions with project consultants we expressed our concerns that boat launch facilities need to be sited so as to provide boating access at projected minimum pool levels.

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If you need further information regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Mark Warren, our Fisheries Chief at 775-688-1530.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Haskins, II Deputy Director

RH:MW:mw

CC:

Michelle Stamates, P.E., Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

John Elliott, Nevada Department of Wildlife Teresa Jarrett, Nevada Department of Wildlife